

7-31-88

Washington July 30<sup>th</sup> 1888.  
Rev J. A. Stephan

Dear Miss N. M. Drake.

Your letters of July 27<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> came to hand, also the plans from Mr. Burns were received. I would have answered your first letter promptly but was in such a state of confusion & troubles, caused by the 'sects' on account of my too many contracts for Indian schools \$320,000. this year as that Secretary Vilas got scared and he and myself have had a long conference last Friday and yesterday again. I made 2 full written statements and explanations. I found out that the Protestants have many unoccupied school houses in the Indian Territory amongst the 5 civilized tribes for which they seek Gov<sup>t</sup> aid. He was refused last year and waited and watched for my applications in order to entrap me for opening the door for them. By the oversight of the Benedictine fathers they did build at Purcell in the Chickasaw country instead of across the line and St. Michaels & St. Luke's in the Choctaw nation both civilized tribes, instead as you and I had said it out to build at the Comanche's reservation. Therefore I tried to withdraw my contracts for those 2 places in order to prevent the Protestants from getting contracts which would take away from us \$55,000. They tried very hard and bitter that my contracts should stand and not to be allowed to be withdrawn, but I succeeded in getting the contracts back and thus defeated them and their old school houses have a quiet vacation for one more year. As Very Rev Ignace O. S. B. gets this year from the general collection about \$7000. as his allotment he can easily support the few scholars he has at Leigh's Purcell. The other schools in the Indian Territory are all right. We must be careful not to make an other blunder. They go ahead like a tramp, not caring where

My Land I am thankful to God that he kept me here to do that work  
In your kind letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> I have to say

1. I shall order Fr. Uback to get the Indian land (120 acres, which  
was an Indian mission and belongs by right to the Indians) from the  
Bishop and build a school there where they have plenty of water and  
good tillable land.
2. Rev. Bordini S. J. got in all, up to date, \$6000<sup>00</sup> for building. Your  
idea to get the property in the name of the Bureau, if you send him  
\$5000<sup>00</sup> is an excellent just and correct one, but my said ex-  
perience tells and backs me forcibly, that the Jesuits will not consent to it,  
and may at any time change the school into a white school if they deem  
it more profitable for themselves.
3. the cross beds - 215 - were ordered by you to be shipped to Rensselaer  
and from there shipped in parcels to the different Indian missions.  
I have <sup>Rev. Willard</sup> sent him the list and directions, but I think it would be best  
you pay for the extra boxing, it is cheapest in the end.
4. wrote to Bishop Jung and Fr. Rylebro for 6 months.
5. You kindly ask me: "how are you"? My bodily health is some better  
but my mind is a "perpetuum mobile" in confusion, and I consider it  
a great rest, when dare and can I see Washington the roasting griddle.
6. Student Wm. C. P. S., who called on you is the person he represents to be.  
✓ But better wait with your donation until I see what help I get from his  
order for the poor Indians. I wrote to the Provincial at Cartagena.  
To your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> I have to say -

M<sup>rs</sup> K.

2.

1. please engage Mr Paul A. Reilly from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug. and let him make all his plans and prepare a list of tools which we will buy in Chicago. Whenever he is ready send him to St Josephs and give him a letter to Muhlbauer & Behrle who can tell him where to find me
2. I will write to day to Bishop Brondell to allow the Ursuline Sisters to take charge of St Stephens Ind. School Wyoming.
3. I did sent yester day John O'Connor of Philadelphia and Henry Murdock of Washington D C. both 18 years old, to St Josephs to prepare to be Indian teachers. I instructed them since 10 days daily and told them to be kind industrious and self-sacrificing, else I do not want them. Better give them a bitter dose first, which cures and keeps the spiritual stomach bait Heavens but blessing to all of You. -

As soon as I can start from here, I will let You know at once. Adress me now Ann building and when I am gone west. 41 Cass St. Chicago.

Truly Yours

The Sacred Hearts  
J. A. Stephan